A DECLARATION OF THE PARLIAMENT For a Day of THANKSGIVING.

THe ſignall Mercies wherewith God hath bleſſed this Commonwealth for ſome years paſt, are ſo evident and convincing, that ſuch only Who are offended at the Hand from whence they come, can refuſe to make acknowledgement. And had not the Concerns been more than humane, which were imbarkt with the late Adventures in theſe Nations, their miſcarriage might have been according to the expectance of the Adverſary: But though not for our ſakes, yet for His great Name ſake, who ſits in Heaven and laughs to ſcorn all the Plots and Devices of the ungodly, hitherto we have been delivered; The ſnare is broken, and We are eſcaped. 'Tis not un-

known with what an out-stretched Arm it hath pleased God, as well to prevent, as repell those Dangers which seemed of late to threaten this Nations Peace, by the Apostasie of some from their former Engagements in conjunction with old Enemies, together with a neutral Generation, in so much as few Counties of England but have been in some measure infested, though not with open acts of Hostility, yet with secret Complottings and Attempts, to debauch the People to an Insurrection, but more especially the North-Western parts, where Sir George Booth, Sir Thomas Middleton, Colonel Egerton, Colonel Werden, and several others their Accomplices, upon pretence of adding to this Nations Freedom, would have by force of Arms brought it into Bondage, by re-admitting a Kingly Interest and Family, against which God hath so long by a successive and un-interrupted Series of Providence very fully witnessed; That when in many other places of this Nation, even at once the Enemy hath attempted to break-in upon our peace like a flood, it is Wonderfull to behold, how the Spirit of the Lord hath lifted up a Standard against him. All which the Parliament considering, hath reckoned it a duty incumbent on them to set apart Thursday next, being the sixth day of October, One thousand six hundred fifty nine, for a Day of solemn Praises and Thanksgivings, to be returned unto the Lord; And to the end, that all who are truly free to such a Duty, within the Cities of London and Westminster, and late Lines of Communication, may have an opportunity to offer a Sacrifice of Praise on this behalf, the Parliament doth hereby declare they are invited thereunto; And as for all other parts of this Commonwealth, upon the Third day of November next: That as the true performance of this Duty is by such a People as are

made

made free in the Sons freedom, (for, Praiſe waiteth for God in Sion) So an occaſion is hereby given to render it to the Lord, even in the Great Congregation.

And although this Combination was ſo general, its appearance ſudden, and there was not wanting a readineſſe of Willing People to offer themſelves in ſuch a day of tryal; yet that it hath pleaſed God, with the loſſe of ſo little Bloud, to ſtill the raging Enemy and Avenger; yea, after his defeat and diſappointment, that both Perſons and Things are brought to light in this matter beyond expectation, are none of the leaſt motives to quicken and excite even all that fear God, and work righteouſneſſe in theſe Nations, unto ſuch a Duty at this ſeaſon, not doubting but as it hath pleaſed God to cauſe the wrath of man to praiſe Him, ſo that the remainder of Wrath will He reſtrain.

Saturday, October. 1. 1659.

ORdered by the Parliament, That this Declaration be forthwith Printed and Publiſhed.

Thomas St. Nicholas,

Clerk of the Parliament.

EDINBURGH,

Re-printed by *Chriſtopher Higgins*, in *Harts-Cloſe*, over againſt the Trone-Church, *Anno Dom.* 1659.